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THE GULL

MONTHLY BULLETIN

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OSPREY SEEN IN BERKELEY HILLS

On Sunday, March 18, at about 9:45 a.m., an osprey, *pandion haliaētus carolinensis*, was seen by Harry Adamson near Skyline Boulevard between Round Top and Snake Road. It was headed north when last seen. At about 10:00 a.m. an osprey was seen by Larry Curl, who was at the Botanical Garden in Strawberry Canyon. It circled over the lower part of the canyon, and then headed over the campus in the general direction of the Golden Gate. The osprey is not listed by Miller and Pitelka in their 1949 list of the Birds of the Berkeley Hills.

— Harry C. Adamson and A. Laurence Curl

BIRDS AT HUNTINGTON LAKE

Mrs. Morton R. Gibbons, one of the first members of the Society, and who helped to select "The Gull", rather than "The Pelican" for the name of our publication, writes of the birds at her summer home at Huntington Lake in the Sierra,—elevation 7000 ft.

"We have the mountain quail, so tame they eat out of our hands, and the white-headed woodpecker scolds us if he finds no suet on the trays. Besides these, we have robins, green-tailed towhees, fox, chipping and white-crowned sparrows, black-headed and western evening grosbeaks, chickadees, juncos, tanagers, Audubon warblers and of course jays, also a Sierra grouse walks around under the trays at times."

CALIFORNIA AUDUBON CONVENTION

The fifth State Convention of the National Audubon Society and its California branches and affiliates was held at Asilomar March 17-20, 1951. The hosts were Monterey Peninsula Audubon Society and Museum of Natural History, Pacific Grove.

Dr. W. A. Angwin, President of the Monterey Peninsula Society, welcomed the attendants from all parts of the State. Mr. John H. Baker, President of the National Audubon Society officiated at the meetings, introducing the various speakers and groups.

Dr. T. Eric Reynolds painted an unhappy picture of destruction rather than construction in the actions of the average human, and the population problems, urging the stockpiling of our wilderness areas.

The question; How to reach these human predators? The answer; Education.

Dr. Lloyd G. Ingles, Prof. of Zoology, Fresno State College presented groups who are endeavoring to educate thru schools, and recreation activities, at all levels, the children, the leaders, and the adults thru nature activities, vacation camps and visual means, developing a sensitivity to the aesthetic and spiritual values of the wilderness areas.

Mr. Vaugh MacCaughey tracing Homo Sapiens in his struggle for survival, and the acquisition of knowledge, doubts that he has yet gained wisdom.

Representatives of Federal and State Departments also branded Man as predator.

"Let's think, ponder and marshall our forces," was the theme.

Field trips to Point Lobos, Hatton Ranch, Elkhorn Slough and the Ocean were enjoyable and rewarding.

The violet-green swallows were arriving; the pygmy nuthatches were preparing their nest-holes; the Audubon warblers were still flashing their bright spots; and a Calliope hummingbird was reported.

Again an enjoyable, friendly and worthwhile convention passed into history.

GOLDEN GATE PARK — SAN FRANCISCO TRIP

Saturday, March 24, 1951, thirteen members and their eight guests met at 9 a.m. at the Hayes and Stanyan Streets entrance to the Golden Gate Park. The route taken was along the path of live oaks, through the fuchsia gardens, to Conservatory Valley, crossing under the Main Drive to the Lily Pond, and down through Laveaga Dell to the Arboretum. It was a beautiful, sunny day, and as we went along it became almost too warm for walking, however, we continued on until we reached Stow Lake where luncheon was eaten. After lunch the group went by automobiles to the Chain of Lakes.

The outstanding record for the day was that of a female Bufflehead Duck seen on Stow Lake. This species, in former years, had been a regular winter visitant to this lake, but as far as I know has not been noted in the park since 1943.

The following thirty-seven species were noted: Pied-bill. grebe; mallard; baldpate; wood ducks 2 male and 1 female; ring-neck. duck; lesser scaup; bufflehead; ruddy duck; turkey vulture; sharp-sh. and red-tld. hawk; quail; Florida gallinule; coot; glaucous-wgd. and Calif. gull; Anna and Allen hummingbird; flicker; willow woodpecker; scrub jay; chickadee; red-br. nuthatch; creeper; robin; ruby-cr. kinglet; cedar waxing; Hutton vireo; Audubon warbler; house sparrow; Breer blackbird; purple finch; pine siskin; junco; fox, Nuttall and song sparrow.

Mr. Laurence Curl with five others went to the Cliff House and added eight more species: brown pelican; Brandt cormorant; surf- bird (2); ruddy and black turnstone; west. and Heermann gull; house finch.

— LAURA A. STEPHENS. *Leader and Historian.*

McCOY RANCH TRIP

A cold, cloudy morning greeted nearly seventy members and guests on April 15, at the McCoy Ranch near Livermore. It soon warmed up though the clouds remained throughout the day, and fine birding was enjoyed. An unusual sight reported was the attack of two red-tailed hawks on two golden eagles, also many magpies, jays and blackbirds noisily worrying a barn owl in a tree and forcing him to seek shelter elsewhere. Judging from the species present and their actions I would say that most of the summer species have just arrived and a few of the wintering birds were still with us. The following 59 species were seen:

Turkey vulture; red-tld. hawk; golden eagle; prairie falcon; sparrow hawk; Calif. quail; killdeer; mourning dove; barn owl; Anna & Allen hummingbird; bldt. kingfisher; red-sh. flicker; Calif., Lewis, downy & Nuttall woodpecker; west. kingbird; bk. phoebe; horned lark; rough-wg. swallow; Steller & scrub jay; yellow-bld. magpie; pl. titmouse; bush-tit; wh.-br. nuthatch; Bewick wren; mockingbird; Calif. thrasher; robin; hermit thrush; west. bluebird; blue-gray gnatcatcher; cedar waxwing; phainopepla; Calif. shrike; Cassin vireo; or.-cr., myrtle, Audubon & pileolated warbler; house sparrow; west. meadowlark; red-wg. blackbird; Bullock oriole; Brewer blackbird; cowbird; Calif. purple & house finch; Amer. & gr.-bk. goldfinch; sp. & br. towhee; savannah & lark, sparrow; Ore. junco; wh.-cr. & gl.-cr. sparrow.

— KEN SCHULZ, *Leader and Historian.*

OBSERVATIONS. Edited by Mrs. Junea W. Kelly.

Cowbird, Mar. 18, pair of cowbirds, Apr. 10, El Cerrito; ruddy turnstone, Mar. 24, Cliff House; western flycatcher, Mar. 31, Strawberry Canyon; hooded merganser, 4 females, 2 female ring-necked ducks, rough-winged swallow, 1 female bufflehead, Orinda Lake; 2 canyon wrens, 1 purple martin, Apr. 8, Mt. Diablo, A. Laurence Curl.

Black-headed grosbeak, Apr. 11, Wooden Valley, Napa Co.; 5 black brant, 100'-knots, 1 kittiwake, Apr. 7; 1 ruddy turnstone, 1 surf bird Apr. 17; 1 horned grebe in fine summer plumage, Apr. 18, Bay Farm Island — The knots and brants were still present on Apr. 18; cowbird Apr. 15, in garden, Alameda. —Junea W. Kelly

NEW MEMBERS: We welcome the following: from San Francisco, Mrs. Agnes Gaffney, Miss Evelyn Mains, Mr. A. D. Williams; from Oakland, Mr. H. Fred Lindquist; from Berkeley, Miss Frances E. Holton, Miss Martha G. Lane, Miss Ellen E. Selkirk; from El Cerrito, Miss Jean E. Matheson, Mr. Randall Pinckert; from San Gabriel, Mrs. R. D. Easton.

MAY MEETING

The 404 meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be held on May 10th at the Oakland Public Museum, Lake Merritt, Oak & 14th Sts. at 7:30 p.m. Following the business meeting, Dr. A. Starker Leopold, lecturer on Wildlife Management at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, will speak on "Problems of Deer Management in California," illustrated with color slides. No-host dinner at Zerikotes at 6 p.m.

— Mrs. Frank A. Scott, *Program Chairman.*

MAY ST. MARY'S TRIP

Sunday, May 13, to St. Mary's College near Moraga. Sixty-eight species of birds were seen on this trip in both 1949 and 1950, including Lawrence goldfinches both years. From San Francisco take 7:40 a.m. "E" train to end of the line at the Claremont Hotel. Meet here at 8:15 and proceed by private car to Orinda, turn right to Moraga, and left about a mile to the college. Meet at junction with Rheem Boulevard. Leader, C. L. Carson, OL. 2-2585. Bring lunch, binoculars and interested friends.

MAY TILDEN PARK TRIP

Saturday, May 19, to Tilden Park. From San Francisco take 8:07 a. m. "F" train and transfer to 67 bus at University Ave. Meet at Spruce St. Reservoir at 9:00 a.m. Birding will be in the Jewell Lake area, with an optional hike up Laurel Canyon to look for rufous-crowned sparrows. Bring lunch if desired, binoculars and interested friends.

MAY LOS BANOS TRIP

Sunday, May 27, to the State Game Refuge near Los Banos. Among the birds which we should see here are stilts, black terns, and avocets, and perhaps also cinnamon teal and yellow-headed blackbirds. Meet at the post office in Los Banos at 9:30 a.m. The driving distance from Oakland is about 120 miles via either Tracy or Gilroy. There are several motor courts in Los Banos in case parties wish to drive down on Saturday. Leader, Dr. T. Eric Reynolds, AN. 1-7121. Bring binoculars and telescope, lunch and interested frends.

TENTATIVE FUTURE TRIPS

June 10 — Tennessee Cove

June 16-17 — Calaveras Grove State Park

June 23 — Lands End

—A. Laurence Curl
Chairman, Field Trips Committee

Golden Gate Audubon Society
Organized January 25, 1917
For the Study and the Protection of Birds
Branch of National Audubon Society

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